

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A railing comprising: upright laterally spaced upright posts, a top rail extended between and connected to said posts, a bottom rail located below the top rail and extended between and connected to said posts, a plurality of laterally spaced upright spindles extend between said top and bottom rails, first ball knobs, first fasteners attaching the first ball knobs to the top rail, second ball knobs, second fasteners attaching the second ball knobs to the bottom rail in general vertical alignment with the first ball knobs, said spindles having opposite ends with inside walls located in telescopic relation with the first and second ball knobs thereby anchoring the spindles on the ~~top and bottom~~ rails, ~~a first spacer~~ first spacers located between the first ball knobs and the top rail, said first ~~spacer comprising a first plate~~ spacers comprising first disks located in engagement with the top rail ~~between said posts and the one of the ends of the spindles~~, said first fasteners retaining the first ~~spacer disks~~ in engagement with the top rail and connecting the first ball knobs to the top rail, and ~~a second spacer~~ second spacers located between the second ball knobs and the bottom rail, said second ~~spacer comprising a second plate~~ spacers comprising second disks located in engagement with the bottom rail ~~between said posts and the other of the ends of the spindles~~, said second fasteners retaining the second ~~spacer disks~~ in engagement with the bottom rail and connecting the second ball knobs to the bottom rail.

2-4 (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) A railing comprising: upright laterally spaced upright posts, a top rail extended between and connected to said posts, a bottom rail located below the top rail and extended between and connected to said posts, a plurality of laterally spaced upright spindles extended between said top and bottom rails, first ball knobs, first fasteners attaching the first ball knobs to the top rail, second ball knobs, second fasteners

attaching the second ball knobs to the bottom rail in general vertical alignment with the first ball knobs, said spindles having opposite ends with inside walls located in telescopic relation with the first and second ball knobs thereby anchoring the spindles on the rails, first spacers comprising generally circular first disks located between the first ball knobs and the top rail spacing the first ball knobs and spindles from the top rail, said first fasteners retaining the first disks in engagement with the top rail and connecting the first ball knobs to the top rail, and second spacers comprising generally circular second disks located between the second ball knobs and the bottom rail spacing the second disks and spindles from the bottom rail, and second fasteners retaining the second disks in engagement with the bottom rail and connecting the second ball knobs to the bottom rail.

6. (Currently Amended) The railing of ~~Claim 1 wherein~~ Claim 5 wherein: said spindles are linear tubes having open opposite ends telescoped in tight fit engagement around the first and second ball knobs.

7. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 6 wherein: said inside walls of the spindles have inwardly directed projections engageable with the first and second ball knobs to inhibit rotation of the spindles relative to the first and second knobs.

8. (Currently Amended) The railing of ~~Claim 1 wherein~~ Claim 5 wherein: each of said first and second ball knobs have a spherical body having an annular convex side wall located in a tight frictional contact with an inside wall of the spindle.

9. (Original) The railing of Claim 8 wherein: said convex side wall includes a plurality of spaced circumferential outwardly extended continuous ribs located in bias contact with said inside wall of the spindle.

10. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 5 wherein: each of said first and second ball knobs have outwardly extended annular ribs located in tight friction contact with

an inside wall of one of the spindles.

11. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 5 wherein: said inside walls of the spindles have inwardly directed projections, and said first and second knobs having outwardly directed annular ribs, said projections being engageable with said ribs to inhibit rotations of the spindles relative to the first and second knobs.

12-15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) A railing comprising: a top rail, a bottom rail located below the top rail, a plurality of laterally spaced upright spindles extended between said top and bottom rails, first ball knobs, first fasteners attaching the first ball knobs to the top rail, second ball knobs, second fasteners attaching the second ball knobs to the bottom rail in general vertical alignment with the first ball knobs, said spindles having opposite ends with inside walls located in telescopic relation with the first and second ball knobs thereby anchoring the spindles on the rails, first spacers comprising generally circular first disks located in engagement with the top rail spacing the first ball knobs from the top rail, said first fasteners retaining the first disks in engagement with the top rail and connecting the first ball knobs to the top rail, second spacers comprising generally circular second disks located in engagement with the bottom rail, said second fasteners retaining the second disks in engagement with the bottom rail and connecting the second ball knobs to the bottom rail.

17. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 16 wherein: said spindles are linear tubes having open opposite ends telescoped in tight fit engagement around the first and second ball knobs.

18. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 16 wherein: said inside walls of said spindles have inwardly directed projections engageable with the first and second ball knobs to inhibit rotation of the spindles relative to the first and second knobs.

19. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 16 wherein: each of said first and second ball knobs have a spherical body having an annular convex side wall located in a tight frictional contact with an inside wall of the spindle.

20. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 19 wherein: said convex side wall includes a plurality of laterally spaced and outwardly extended continuous annular ribs located in bias contact with said inside wall of the spindle.

21. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 16 wherein: each of said first and second ball knobs have outwardly extended annular ribs located in tight friction contact with an inside wall of the spindle.

22. (Previously Presented) The railing of Claim 16 wherein: said inside walls of the spindles have inwardly directed projections, said first and second knobs having circumferential outwardly directed ribs, said projections being engageable with ribs to inhibit rotation of the spindles relative to the first and second knobs.

23-42. (Canceled).